

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 699 - HB 958

March 29, 2011

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires all state, appellate and Supreme Court judges to be popularly elected at the regular August election by the qualified voters of the state for an eight year term. Political parties may nominate candidates for the office of Supreme Court or state appellate court. The Judicial Nominating Commission and the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission, both of which are administratively attached to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) would be eliminated.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Decrease State Expenditures - \$128,500

Assumptions:

- According to the AOC, the costs associated with the Judicial Nominating Commission for FY09-10 were \$18,228 and \$7,364 for FY10-11 (projected) resulting in a two-year average cost of \$12,796. The costs associated with the Judicial Performance Evaluation Commission for FY09-10 were \$66,229 and \$165,166 for FY10-11 (projected) resulting in a two-year average of \$115,698. Eliminating these two commissions would result in a recurring decrease in state expenditures of \$128,494 (\$12,796 + \$115,698).
- An increase in state expenditures for ballot modifications. These expenditures are estimated to be not significant.

CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "James W. White".

James W. White, Executive Director

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